

## **Public Notice – Environmental Project**

### **PURPOSE OF NOTICE:**

The Department of Environmental Quality seeks public comment on the state's response to the environmental aspects of a proposed federal action in the City of Virginia Beach.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:**

August 17, 2017 to September 15, 2017

### **TYPE OF RESPONSE:**

Federal Consistency Certification

DEQ is reviewing a proposed federal licensing activity to determine whether it is consistent with the Virginia Coastal Zone Management (CZM) Program established pursuant to the federal Coastal Zone Management Act. The Virginia CZM Program seeks to protect the quality of air, water or other natural resources in Virginia's coastal zone.

### **NAME OF AGENCY PROPOSING THE PROJECT:**

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

### **PROJECT DESCRIPTION:**

The Norfolk District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) is reviewing a Joint Permit Application submitted by the City of Virginia Beach (applicant) for the issuance of an individual permit pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA) (Public Law 95-217) for impacts to jurisdictional waters of the United States from the Chesapeake Beach Nourishment Project in the City of Virginia Beach. Chesapeake Beach is the one-mile stretch of beach that extends from the border with Little Creek Amphibious Base on the west to Joyce Avenue and Baylake Pines on the east. Decades of chronic erosion coupled with the presence of exposed bulkheads have resulted in a relatively narrow dry beach berm width and, along more than half the length of Chesapeake Beach, a lack of dunes to absorb wave energy. The City intends to place approximately 360,000 cubic yards (CY) of sand along approximately 6,000 linear feet of shoreline, to tie into existing submerged grade at approximately -5 feet to -10 feet NAVD88 (-3.5 feet to -8.5 feet MLLW). The preferred sand borrow source is the Chesapeake Beach Shoal adjacent to the project shoreline. The initial nourishment will require dredging of up to approximately 440,000 CY to be borrowed from a portion of the Chesapeake Beach Shoal. The initial nourishment and future renourishments will be constructed through hydraulic dredging of portions of the shoal by a pipeline dredge. Subsequent nourishments would be conducted using other areas of the shoal, to be determined following performance monitoring of the initial project. The City of Virginia Beach has submitted a Federal Consistency Certification for the proposal that finds it consistent with the enforceable policies of the Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program.

### **HOW TO COMMENT:**

DEQ accepts comments from the public by e-mail, fax or postal mail. All comments must include the name, address and telephone number of the person commenting and be received by DEQ within the comment period. The public may review the project documents at DEQ's central office in Richmond.

### **CONTACT FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS, DOCUMENT REQUESTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

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